Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EUR-12

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UNCLAS MOSCOW 16714

FOR BEWT/TDAD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BRTA, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIETS PROPOSE TOUR TO VIEW U.S. UNDERGROUND MINING

EQUIPMENT

1. USSR MINISTRY OF NON-FERROUS METALLURGY HAS ASKED COMMERCIAL OFFICE IF USG COULD ASSIST IN ARRANGING TOUR OF SELECTED U.S. NON-FERROUS MINES UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF AMERICAN UNDERGROUND MINING EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS TO VIEW THEIR EQUIPMENT IN OPERATION. MINISTRY POTENTIALLY INTERESTED IN PURCHASING OR OBTAINING LICENSES FOR PRODUCTION OF ALL KINDS OF UNDERGROUND MINING EQUIPMENT, BUT CONVEYORS, FRONT LOADERS, DRILLS, AND CUTTERS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED. MINISTRY OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS FOR SPONSORING FIRMS BUT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURED BY GARDNER-DENVER, WAGNER MINING EQUIPMENT, INGERSOLL-RAND, WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE, ROBBINS (RAISE BORERS) AND EIMCO (FRONT-END LOADERS). SOVIETS WOULD PAY EXPENSE OF DELEGATION, WHICH WOULD CONSIST OF 5-10 PERSONS.

ALTHOUGH TIMING NOT FIRM, MINISTRY ENVISIONS 15-DAY VISIT IN MARCH OR APRIL.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE SOUND OUT FIRMS NAMED
ABOVE AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS
ABOUT WILLINGNESS TO HOST SOVIET DELEGATION FOR
PROGRAM DESCRIBED ABOVE AND GIVE US THEIR REACTIONS FOR
TRANSMITTAL TO MINISTRY. IF DEEMED DESIRABLE, WOULD
USDOC BE IN POSITION TO FURNISH ESCORT/INTERPRETER FOR
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DELEGATION?

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To: COM

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